

Message Text

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44

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 PC-01 OMB-01 CIEP-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 COME-00

NIC-01 SAJ-01 CU-02 /078 W
----- 041172

R 121550Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1395

INFO AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 7544

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, NU, TW, PFOR

SUBJECT: GEN. MENDOZA COMMENTS ON NICARAGUA VISIT

1. CARABINERO (UNIFORMED NATIONAL POLICE) GEN AND JUNTA MEMBER CESAR MENDOZA DURAN RETURNED FROM DEC 4 OFFICIAL VISIT TO NICARAGUA DURING WHICH HE REPRESENTED GOC AT PRES. SOMOZA'S INAUGURATION. WE BELIEVE FEW CHILEANS NOTICED THAT HE HAD BEEN GONE, AND FEWER STILL CARED ABOUT WHAT HE DID IN NICARAGUA. THE PRESS DUTIFULLY NOTED HE WAS BACK, AND DROPPED THE STORY.

2. HOWEVER, THE VISIT RECEIVED SOME COVERAGE DEC 11 BY MEANS OF INTERVIEW IN LEADING PAPER LA TERCERA (POUCHED TO MANAGUA). GEN. MENDOZA THUS WAS ABLE TO TELL CHILE THAT THE GON AND THE NICARAGUAN PEOPLE HAD WELCOMED HIM WARMLY, AND THAT PRES. SOMOZA, A SYMPATHETIC, CULTURED PERSON OF GREAT PERSONALITY, HAD ASSURED MENDOZA IN PRIVATE TWO-HOUR TALK THAT SOMOZA FULLY UNDERSTANDS "CHILEAN CAUSE" AND SUPPORTS IT.

3. MENDOZA ADDED THAT DURING VISIT HE WAS APPROACHED BY
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REPUBLIC OF CHINA VICE PRESIDENT WHO WAS "VERY INTERESTED IN

REESTABLISHMENT OF COMMERCIAL AND CULTURAL TIES WITH CHILE".
MENDOZA ADDED THAT "IT WAS ONLY A CONVERSATION".

4. COMMENT: MENDOZA'S QUICK REASSURANCE ON TIES WITH TAIPEI
FULLY REFLECTS UNLIKELIHOOD THAT GOC WOULD DO ANYTHING WHICH
MIGHT UPSET RELATIONS WITH THE PRC.
POPPER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, VISITS, POLITICAL LEADERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 DEC 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SANTIA07544
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740361-0571
From: SANTIAGO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741240/aaaabhue.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Aug-2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <18 MAR 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: GEN. MENDOZA COMMENTS ON NICARAGUA VISIT
TAGS: PFOR, CI, NU, TW, (MENDOZA DURAN, CESAR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005